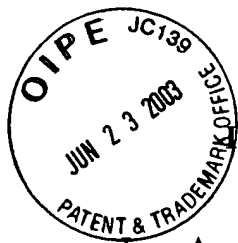


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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of:     | ) | Group Art Unit: 2174             |
|                           | ) |                                  |
| Andrew Baird et al.       | ) | Examiner: S. P. Sax              |
|                           | ) |                                  |
| Serial Number: 09/456,127 | ) | Attorney Docket No. 003797.80027 |
|                           | ) |                                  |
| Filed: 12/07/99           | ) | Confirmation No. 6011            |

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98, enclosed are PTO Forms 1449 listing art for consideration by the Examiner and a copy of each of the identified documents.

The references contained in this information disclosure statement were cited in Information Disclosure Statements filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office by Applicants in related applications U.S. Serial Nos. 09/768,813; 09/457,109; 09/556,865; 09/456,975; 09/456,249; 09/603,781; 09/605,878; 09/604,810; 09/456,952; 09/455,807; 09/455,754; 09/455,806; 09/455,808 and 09/455,805.

Three of the documents (U.S. Patent Nos. 5,920,694 and 5,986,665 and Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication No. 11327789) were cited by the International Searching Authority for corresponding International Application No. PCT/US 01/19919 on October 5, 2001. A copy of this search report is also enclosed.

**Information Disclosure Statement**

Serial No. 09/456,127

Page 2

Three of the documents (WO 97 22109A, the Schilit and Price article, and the Graefe article) were cited by the International Searching Authority for corresponding International Application Nos. PCT/US 00/33129 on February 14, 2001 and PCT/US 00/33082 on February 15, 2001. The three references, along with the search report for International Application No. PCT/US 00/33129, have already been made of record in the above-identified application. We are merely submitting a copy of the search report for PCT/US 00/33082.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such documents constitute prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed documents as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Consideration of all information is respectfully requested.

The accompanying Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, authorization is given to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0733 for the \$180.00 fee. In the event there is a discrepancy with the fee, please charge or credit Deposit Account No. 19-0733. Further, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

**Information Disclosure Statement**

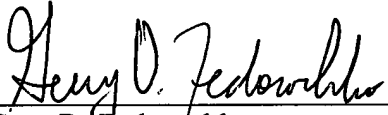
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Page 3

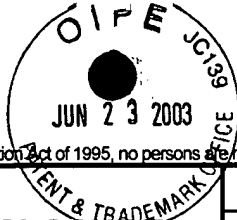
It is respectfully requested that the Examiner fully consider each of the documents, initial the enclosed PTO Forms 1449 in the appropriate place to indicate that the documents have been considered, and return a copy of the initialed forms to the undersigned in accordance with MPEP Section 609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 23, 2003

By:   
Gary D. Fedorochko  
Registration No. 35,509

Banner & Witcoff, LTD  
1001 G Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597  
(202) 824-3000



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Sheet 1 of 4

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| Examiner Name          | S. P. Sax           |
| Attorney Docket Number | 003797.80027        |

**RECEIVED**  
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Technology Center 2100**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials * | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                            | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of<br>Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
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|                        |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |  |                |
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| Sheet | 2 | of | 4 |
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**Complete if Known**

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|------------------------|--------------|
| Application Number     | 09/456,127   |
| Filing Date            | 12/07/1999   |
| First Named Inventor   | Andrew Baird |
| Group Art Unit         | 2174         |
| Examiner Name          | S. P. Sax    |
| Attorney Docket Number | 003797.80027 |

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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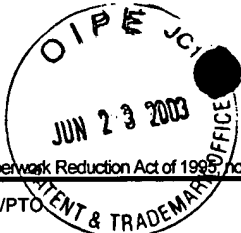
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| Application Number     | 09/456,127          |
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| Group Art Unit         | 2174                |
| Examiner Name          | S. P. Sax           |
| Attorney Docket Number | 003797.80027        |

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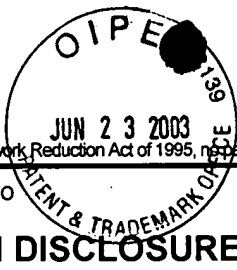
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